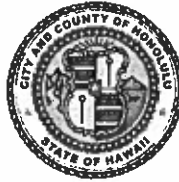


DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



July 24, 2019

KATHY K. SOKUGAWA
ACTING DIRECTOR

TIMOTHY F. T. HIU
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EUGENE H. TAKAHASHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

The Honorable Ron Menor, Chair
and Members
Committee on Zoning, Planning, and Housing
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Menor and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Testimony In Support of Bill 25 (2019)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding Bill 25 (2019) as it relates to the City's transit-oriented development (TOD) goals. The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) has reviewed and strongly supports the passage of Bill 25 (2019), which adopts the State Energy Code and 2015 International Energy Conservation Code with local amendments.

The laudable energy efficiency improvements in the bill can reduce residents' utility costs in the long-term. The electric vehicle (EV) readiness provisions, which require 25 percent of parking stalls in newly constructed multi-family and commercial parking facilities to be made "EV ready," are a critical step towards achieving the City's climate goals and complement the City's TOD plans.

As you know, since 2007 the City has committed to accelerating TOD in neighborhoods to promote compact, mixed-use development and enhance quality of life for residents through more convenient, sustainable, and affordable transportation and housing options. The City's commitment to TOD demonstrates that investments like rail are not just about moving people, but about creating a more sustainable and equitable future for Oahu.

While walking, biking, and public transit use are a key focus of TOD policies and plans, helping to ensure the adoption of EVs for the automobile use that does exist is a critical component of the City's goal to transition to 100 percent clean transportation options by 2045. EVs will offer essential mobility options for residents to get to or from

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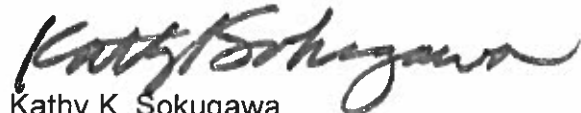
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Page 2

rail stations, as well as provide clean transportation options for residents where public transit does not currently, or will not sufficiently, meet their daily travel needs.

Preparing now for the electrification of transportation is the most prudent practice. Like the TOD improvements to infrastructure and communities, it is much more affordable to include readiness for EVs when new infrastructure is being built rather than retrofitting. Some estimates show retrofitting existing facilities to incorporate EV charging infrastructure can be much more cost prohibitive—four to eight times more expensive than during new construction. As rail does for TOD, new multi-family and commercial construction can accelerate the electrification of transportation via charging station readiness.

Again, the DPP fully supports the adoption of Bill 25 (2019) with the local amendments. Should you have any questions, please contact Harrison Rue, Community Building and TOD Administrator at hrue@honolulu.gov or 768-8294.

Sincerely,



Kathy K. Sokugawa
Acting Director

APPROVED:



Roy K. Amemiya, Jr.
Managing Director